GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:953
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2007
CLOSED GAS OUTLETS
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a): whether oil and gas outlets of various companies are lying closed in the various parts of the country due to the orders issued by the Supreme Court and other subordinate courts;

(b): if so, the details thereof;

(c): the amount spent by the oil companies to provide infrastructural facilities at the said outlets;

(d): the losses being suffered by the Government oil companies due to the closure of the said outlets each month;

(e): the policy formulated by the Government to reopen these outlets in near future; and

(f): the time by when these outlets are likely to be re-opened?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) to (d) : The number of retail outlets of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) viz. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPC) lying closed and total investment made thereon are as under :-

OMC	Number of ROs lying closed	Investment made (Rs. in lakhs)
IOC	11	302.7
HPC	3	119.0
BPC	7	283.7

OMCs have reported that there is no LPG distributorship lying closed, as whenever any distributorship is terminated, customers of the terminated distributorships are immediately shifted to the nearby existing distributorship. The losses suffered by OMCs are in the nature of not getting returns on the investments made by them.

(e) & (f) : These retail outlets are lying closed due to reasons like eviction from land due to refusal of the landowner to extend the lease in favour of OMCs, pending resitement, etc. The endeavour of OMCs is to re-open these closed outlets at the earliest while following the due legal course.